CCE 58  Careers & Impact in Healthcare: Voices from Beyond the Purple Valley

Healthcare accounts for nearly 20% of the US GDP and it's nearly impossible to overstate the impact the industry has on our lives today and will have on our society in the future. Clearly, careers in healthcare can involve the practice of clinical medicine and the conduct of medical research. However, careers in healthcare can also intersect with numerous areas in the private sector, including: finance, investing, consulting, marketing, biotechnology/pharmaceuticals, medical devices, technology, law, start-ups and more. If you have an interest in healthcare, this course is your chance to discover the breadth of career paths available to you. The cornerstone of the course will involve guest speakers working in various areas of healthcare, with a focus on the practice of medicine and a range of roles in the private sector. Guest speakers will share their firsthand experience with you, including: what they do; how they got there; what they love about their job; what challenges they face; and how they view their long term impact in healthcare. Students in this course will also have opportunities for self-reflection around career path and will gain hands-on exposure to the day-to-day activities in different healthcare roles. Insights on how to obtain a job in various healthcare sectors will flow naturally from the course discussions. However, the focus of this course is less on the brass tacks of how to get there (resumés, qualifications, networking, and interviewing). Instead, it is your chance to dream a little, by exploring careers you may not have fully considered (or even heard of!) and to create a vision for how you can contribute to the healthcare industry after graduation. Guest speaker visits will take place during class hours; active listening and engaged participation during these visits is the main expectation of students. Other assignments may include readings, individual and group exercises, and short written reflections.

Requirements/Evaluation: Other: Participation in class lectures and discussions will be paramount; short written reflection pieces and exercises will also be evaluated.

Prerequisites: The only prerequisite is enthusiasm for the subject matter. Open to all years and all majors. No prior experience in healthcare is required.

Enrollment Limit: 30

Enrollment Preferences: If needed, this can be determined by lottery.

Expected Class Size: NA

Grading:

Unit Notes: Sarah is an investor in biotechnology at StemPoint Capital. Previously, she worked in biotech equity research, marketing consulting, and clinical research. Sarah received her BA from Williams and her MBA in Healthcare Management from Wharton.

Attributes: STUX Winter Study Student Exploration WELL Winter Study Wellness

Not offered current academic year

Winter Study -------------------------------------------------

CCE 11 (W) Investing in a Real Fund

We will use financial fraud as an entryway into the world of investing. Through the lens of how bad actors have tricked markets, we will learn how to analyze firms and stocks with a bit of a cautious eye. The focus of the course is to learn how to analyze and value a company. Along the way, we'll touch on a host of topics: basic financial accounting, investment instruments, corporate capital structure, equity and fixed income markets, derivatives, market efficiency, behavioral finance, and non-financial drivers (ESG, etc.) to arrive at a sound base of securities analysis. We'll conclude with student pitches for stocks we will buy (or not) in the fund we manage. And while we will employ a classic textbook, we'll also read about true financial frauds that are just jaw-dropping. (Students will read a couple chapters of the textbook and one ~250 page easily-read fraud each week. This course is designed for students with anywhere from no experience in investing to a moderate amount.) Interested students should submit a resume and brief paragraph about their interest in this course through Handshake by October 17, 2025, https://app.joinhandshake.com/edu/jobs/8319121

Requirements/Evaluation: Presentation(s); Other: The final presentations are team-based exercises, but I expect students to come to class prepared and to talk and think and debate. One of the things we're teaching here is the ability to engage in discussion in a civil, genteel manner.

Prerequisites: None

Enrollment Limit: 20
Enrollment Preferences: Preference given to First Years and Sophomores. Students are asked to submit a short answer (50-100 words) to a question: Why do you want to take this course and what do you hope to get out of it?

Expected Class Size: NA
Grading: pass/fail only

Unit Notes: David '90 P'20, a Founding Partner of Triangle Peak Partners, a venture capital firm, graduated from Williams with Honors in Mathematics. He worked for Bain & Co., MAC Group, and Fayez Sarofim & Co. He also holds an MBA from Stanford University.

Materials/Lab Fee: $180

Attributes: EXPE Experiential Education Courses STUX Winter Study Student Exploration

Not offered current academic year

CCE 13 (W) INFLUENCE®, Venture Capital and Entrepreneurship: An Intensive Ventureship

INFLUENCE® as an investment method for start-ups: a hybrid course melding principles in economics, sociology, and psychology, this intense program examines core venture capital structures, brand development, and social priming through social media influencers and applies them to create a new company where INFLUENCE drives growth and value. Students will act like venture capitalist and founders. Over the past three winter studies we created three companies, reviewed investment term sheets and evaluated the nature of venture funding. The London Fund's proprietary Lal Toofan methodology and investment approach help students develop a start-up, its business plan, and a venture capital presentation. Celebrity influencers, investors and seasoned entrepreneurs will contribute to the class lectures. Out-of-class work includes competitive research on investments, financial modeling, and social network browsing.

Requirements/Evaluation: Presentation(s)
Prerequisites: None
Enrollment Limit: 20
Enrollment Preferences: Prior work experience, and preference for psychology, sociology, economics, computer science, studio art and political economy majors. The class should have a 50/50 balance of creative and quantitative-focused individuals.
Expected Class Size: NA
Grading: pass/fail only

Unit Notes: Founder, The London Fund. Serial entrepreneur. Managed two $1B+ VC and PE funds. Four IPOs by 27. $2B in exits. Seven patents. Presidential Task Force while at the CIA. Held every CxO title (except COO). BA, Williams College

Attributes: EXPE Experiential Education Courses STUX Winter Study Student Exploration

Not offered current academic year

CCE 19 (W) Healthcare Shadowing

Experience in a healthcare environment is essential to exploring the health professions. Through this experiential course, students have an opportunity to clarify their understanding of the rewards and challenges of the practice of allopathic and osteopathic medicine, veterinary medicine, dentistry, allied health professions, or public health. Students will participate in an intensive shadowing internship through a self-identified placement in a geographic location of their choosing. Generally, a shadowing experience focuses on provider-patient interactions within out-patient and in-patient settings. These experiences provide students with the opportunity to observe clinical interactions and to learn about the systems within which healthcare is delivered. Students will be introduced to fundamental concepts related to patient interviewing, diagnosis, and medical decision making. This course will encourage participants to reflect on their healthcare experiences with a dual focus: from the perspective of the individual provider-patient relationship and within a systems-level context. Weekly panels will expose students to broader perspectives in healthcare, preparation for health professions programs, and more. By the end of the course, students will demonstrate a greater understanding of the fundamentals of patient-provider interactions, clinical diagnosis, patient interviewing, and/or factors affecting the health of individuals and communities. They will write a final reflective paper on their experiences. Students are welcome to participate in self-sourced shadowing or volunteering internships in a geographic area where they have housing and transportation or will have the opportunity to be placed in the Williamstown area. Students can express interest in this course by filling out a brief application (To be provided later.)

Requirements/Evaluation: Paper(s) or report(s); Presentation(s); Other: In place of a paper, students may have the option to participate in a panel presentation/conversation. TBD
Prerequisites: Open to all students interested in exploring a career in medicine, dentistry, veterinary, nursing, PA, or other healthcare professions.
Enrollment Limit: 35
Enrollment Preferences: Application is required. Priority will be given to students who have not previously had an opportunity to shadow or have had limited exposure to working in healthcare.

Expected Class Size: NA

Grading: pass/fail only

Unit Notes: As Director of Health Professions Advising at the '68 Center, Sharon guides students pursuing careers in the healthcare professions.

Materials/Lab Fee: $350

Attributes:  EXPE Experiential Education Courses  STUX Winter Study Student Exploration

Not offered current academic year

CCE 21 (W) Career Exploration: Winter Study Internships!

Internships amplify academic learning, empower professional development, and increase students’ career options. This course offers students the opportunity to learn beyond the classroom by providing substantive applied learning experiences focusing on issues such as racial justice/social justice, non-profit/community service, government/policy/law, environment, education & more! Students have the option of applying to the designated WS internships posted on Handshake, or submitting self-sourced WS internships. Each student will intern for 5 days per week working on project(s) for 3 1/2-4 weeks. Williams College Alumni/Parents and other employers will be recruited as Winter Study (WS) Internship Employers and create meaningful projects/experiences during the month of January. It is expected that our WS Employers will mentor the Williams intern(s) during the course, meet with intern(s) on a regular basis to discuss projects/goals/challenges for the week, and support students’ success. In January, students will reflect upon their experiences: Impressions about the organization and its workplace culture. Insights about the structure of their role, the organization and the industry. Professionally-What they have learned about themselves within a professional environment; may solidify an interest in a particular industry and build upon this experience when pursuing future opportunities or support the decision to change direction and explore a new industry. Academically-Future course selection, selection of major, and enhanced, grounded, contributions to class discussions. If you are an F1 Student, CPT is required for this course. Please submit your internship offer and information to the International Student Portal https://internationalportal.williams.edu/ Each student will intern for 5 days per week working on project(s) for 3 1/2-4 weeks. If you are an F1 Student, CPT is required for this course. Please submit your internship offer and information to the International Student Portal https://internationalportal.williams.edu/ In January, students will reflect upon their experiences: impressions about the organization and its workplace culture; insights about the structure of their role, the organization and the industry; and what they have learned about themselves within a professional environment. More information can be found here: https://careers.williams.edu/winter-study-internships/#spec-21-requirements

Requirements/Evaluation: Other: Students must write a short paper that will become a public record and used as a resource by future students or create a 3-5 minute video, and responding to three questions (one per week) posted to the SPEC 21 Winter Study Internship Discussion Group.

Prerequisites: Interested students must attend an information meeting in late September or early October and follow up with Dawn Dellea if they have questions about specific WS internships listed in the SPEC 21 syllabus or self-sourced WS internships.

Enrollment Limit: 250

Enrollment Preferences: 1st priority- Designated SPEC 21 internships posted on Handshake-WS Internship Employers select students based on their applications/possible interviews. 2nd priority-Separate application/evaluation process for students with self-sourced WS internships.

Expected Class Size: NA

Grading: pass/fail only

Unit Notes: Since August 1996, I’ve worked at the ‘68 Center for Career Exploration in various roles. Currently I manager our Signature Internship Programs the Alumni Sponsored Internship Program (ASIP) and SPEC 21 Career Exploration: Winter Study Internships!

Attributes: EXPE Experiential Education Courses  STUX Winter Study Student Exploration

Not offered current academic year

CCE 42 (W) Exploring Careers

Join '68 Center staff for an immersive career exploration course. The course will meet as a large group, and will have sessions each week in small sections for Creative Careers (Arts, Entertainment, Media, Communications), Business, Social Impact (Law Government, Environment Sustainability, Nonprofit Human Services, Education), and STEM/Tech/Healthcare, facilitated by peer advisors and career advisors. This intensive course is the perfect fit for students (especially first years and sophomores) who are just beginning to explore career options and want to commit the time and effort to develop career exploration skills that they’ll use throughout their lives. Students will begin by identifying and reflecting on their skills, interests, values, and motivations and applying this self-knowledge to their career exploration. Then, they'll delve into to identifying and building their network of mentors, uncovering the hidden internship and job market. Assignments will include crafting compelling stories in resumes, cover letters and
interviews, and more. Highlights include How I Got My Internship panels, alumni panels on various aspects of their industries, practice interviews with alums, and a session on DEIA in the workplace. Students will travel together to New York City (for 3 days and 2 nights) to meet with alumni and employers. Last year’s visits included: Google, the New York Times, the Met, Sotheby’s NASDAQ, Philanthropy of NY, Green Project Technologies, Pfizer, WNYC, and Pryor Cashman LLP. The course will conclude with a celebratory reflective session back on campus at Williams. For this immersive course, the group will meet for 12-15 hours/week and will have some preparation to do between sessions. If the course fee is a concern, please talk to our office about ways we can accommodate you. If we you want to participate, we don't want to present financial barriers.

Requirements/Evaluation: Other: Participation and a career-related document portfolio.

Prerequisites: None.

Enrollment Limit: 40

Enrollment Preferences: Students will complete a brief application process to articulate their interest in the course during the fall semester to aid in selection. Preference will be given to first years and sophomores who are eager to explore broadly.

Expected Class Size: NA

Grading: pass/fail only

Unit Notes: Janine Oliver, Director of Career Education, is a high energy idealist. Her background as a special education teacher, mental health counselor, experiential/outdoor educator, and confused college student informs her work as a career educator.

Materials/Lab Fee: $350

Attributes: STUX Winter Study Student Exploration WELL Winter Study Wellness

Not offered current academic year

CCE 57 Approaching Ethical Dilemmas in Healthcare

Are you considering a career in healthcare or in bioethics? Are you curious about the ethical dilemmas that healthcare professionals encounter? This course will provide an introduction to core bioethics topics such as informed consent, surrogate decision-making, advance care planning, and controversial interventions at the end of life. Students also will learn a framework for thinking through ethical dilemmas in healthcare, and will apply it to practice cases. Each class will start with a lecture about a core topic. Students then will break into small groups to work through practice cases, or to discuss multiple perspectives on controversial topics. Classes will end with students reconvening in the big group to share their insights. Outside of class, students will learn about core topics from published articles, legal cases, podcasts, and other online materials. Some cases will require additional research done outside of class. Students will complete a final project of their choosing which could include a presentation on a bioethics topic not discussed in class, a case analysis, a presentation or review of a book with ethical overtones, or a presentation or review of a film with ethics themes. Please note that this class will focus predominantly on cases involving adult patients, not adolescent or pediatric patients.

Requirements/Evaluation: Paper(s) or report(s); Presentation(s)

Prerequisites: None

Enrollment Limit: 20

Enrollment Preferences: Preference will be given to students considering a career in healthcare or bioethics. Seniors and juniors will be given preference over sophomores and freshmen.

Expected Class Size: NA

Grading:

Unit Notes: Lisa Vig is a Williams grad who has done ethics consults and run her hospital's Ethics Consult Service for >10 years. She is a practicing physician specialized in palliative care and geriatric medicine, and a faculty member at U. of Washington.

Attributes: EXPE Experiential Education Courses STUX Winter Study Student Exploration

Not offered current academic year